

28 March 1962

25X1A

MEMORANDUM TO:

FROM :

SUBJECT :

OBI Participation in the African Roundtable Program

25X1A Your continuing interest in the program of the Africa Roundtable and the participation of OBI in this activity, prompts this memorandum. The Roundtable was formed in 1959, being initially suggested by Mr. [REDACTED] of ORR as a means of providing a forum for the views of working level analysts. Dr. Otto Guthe, AD/ORR, gave the Roundtable an informal mandate, but initially limited participation to CIA personnel. Later, as the activity succeeded, participation was opened to selected members of the intelligence community, principally in the Department of State and the Department of Defense.

25X1A In mid-1961, [REDACTED] was charged with the responsibility of program planning and soon thereafter became chairman of the Africa Roundtable. Upon his transfer to OBI/R/AF in January 1962, Mr. [REDACTED] Chief Geographic Area ORR, requested [REDACTED] to 25X1A

25X1A allow [REDACTED] to continue his term as chairman of the group and

25X1A [REDACTED] agreed.

25X1A To date during the 1961-62 fiscal year the Roundtable has convened four times. Topics discussed were as follows: Arms Control and Africa, the Clarence Randall Mission to Ghana, Communism in Africa, and Portuguese Africa. The qualifications of the speakers in 1961-62 have been such as to attract favorable comment from many members of the intelligence community. The Chairman now is forced to limit instead of solicit attendance. OBI/R/AF has been represented at all sessions of the Roundtable during 1961-62, and, in fact, Dr. Guthe and [REDACTED] have expressed positive interest in extending invitations to OBI/R.

25X1A In July 1962 [REDACTED] will finish his term as Chairman and phase completely out of affairs African. His experiences to date, however, dictate the following recommendations. OBI, with its large component engaged in intelligence research on Africa, should engage in program planning as part of an interdepartmental group consisting

25X1A of a member of the Department of State, Department of Defense, and four members of CIA, one from: ORR (Geographic Area), ONE, DD/P, and OBI/R. After this experience OBI should be able to chairman the Roundtable by 1963-64. [REDACTED] has informed me that ORR has enough money to carry on an expanded program involving speakers from non-governmental sources. If, however, ORR is not able to solely support such a program, OBI might consider sharing part of the cost. The Africa Roundtable thrives when it presents good programs, and OBI should associate itself as closely as possible with this activity.

CONFIDENTIAL

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
TO: AD/RR		24 Sep 64
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	noted for
REMARKS:		
25X1A	<p>[REDACTED] may query you re the African Committee. If so it will be based on this memo prepared by [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] request [REDACTED]</p>	
25X1A	FROM: [REDACTED]	25X1A
25X1A	ROOM NO.	ENSION

FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55  
 REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED.  
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